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SOURCE Documentary as indicated. (Information specifically requested.)

RECENTLY PUBLISHED RESEARCH OF THE
BASIKIR MEDICAL INSTITUTE, UFA, USSR

"Active Principles of Asarum European L. Leaves," M. A. Abdul'menev, Bashkir Med Inst

"Fermatsiya" Vol 8, No 4, 1945, pp 39-42

Roots of *Asarum europaeum* L. contain 1,2,3-trimethoxy-4-propenylbenzene (asarone, I) and an alkaloid asarine (II). Toxicity of the root is low; its effects on frogs, rabbits, and dogs included accelerated respiration, local stimuli, nausea, and emesis. The leaves contain a glycoside (III) of the aldohexose and I. Leaf extract (20 parts per million in Ringer-Locke solution) had a pressor effect on frog heart. When heated 3-4 hours at 70-80°, III loses its cardiovascular activity. If present in the leaf, II is not the source of cardiovascular action. The root contains about 1.17% II.

"Composition and Properties of Lipides from *Corynebacterium Diphtheriae*," E. N. Gatarev, I. L. Vakulenko, Bashkir Med Inst

"Biokhimiya" Vol 10, 1945, pp 235-95

An ether extract from 5 kg of dry diphtheria cells yielded 50 g of an orange yellow solid, melting at 43°; acid number, 55.7; saponification number, 77.6. Glycerol and sterols were absent. On hydrolysis with alcoholic alkali, a precipitate formed; this consisted of a d-galactose containing hexosan, calcium phosphate, and small amount of a pentosan (probably built up of d-arabinose). The fatty

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acids were separated by means of their Pb salts into 0.2 g liquid and 3 g solid acids. The liquid fatty acids had an acid number of 45.6, and consisted probably of acid condensation products. The crude solid acids melted at 50°, and the acid number was 127.5. The solid acids on crystallization from alcohol gave a new unsaturated acid, designated corinnic acid, melting at 70°; acid number, 106; I number, 58.0; provisional formula $C_{35}H_{68}O_2$; ethyl ester, melting at 62°. The unsaponifiable fraction when dissolved in ether and treated with acetone yielded 3 g of a new unsaturated alcohol, designated corinnic alcohol, or diphtherol, provisional formula $C_{35}H_{70}O$, melting at 54°. From the ether-acetone filtrate was isolated more than 3 g of a yellow waxy substance, melting at 232°, which was not further investigated.

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